CUMULATIVE TEST 3 UNITS 1–9

Name _____

Class _____ Date _____ Score _____

I. Vocabulary in Context *Some of the words you have studied in Units 1–9 appear in* ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

The Origins of Yoga

Yoga is an ancient spiritual discipline that is intended to establish harmony between mind and body, between the human world and the natural world, and between the present and eternity. It aims to liberate the individual consciousness (which is finite and mortal) by uniting it with the universal (which is infinite, **immutable**, and immortal). This liberation creates a state of total understanding known as *nirvana*.

The word *Yoga* is derived from the ancient Sanskrit word *yuj*, meaning "unite," "connect," or "yoke together." The word appears in the four *Vedas*, which were composed between the mid-second and the mid-first millennium BCE. The *Rigveda*, the *Yajurveda*, the *Samaveda,* and the *Atharvaveda* contain **precepts**, hymns, chants, and rituals from ancient India. Together, they form the basis of various spiritual practices. *Yuj* is referred to as a series of **austere** rituals—chants and physical gestures—intended to prepare the mind and body for the rigorous pursuit of spiritual enlightenment.

The Vedas do not describe these rituals in detail. It was not until the second century that the first systematic presentation of Yoga was written. In his *Yoga Sutras*, the **redoubtable** Patanjali maps out in practical detail the "eight-limbed path" to *Samadhi*, or enlightenment. The path that has come to dominate all forms of Yoga is meditation through **beneficent** physical poses, or *asanas*. Held indefinitely, an *asana* is a state of perfect stillness in which consciousness is reduced to a single breath: slow, deep, continuous, and circular.

Today Yoga is a sacred practice for some. For others, Yoga is practiced for the benefits it yields, among them the relaxation and reduction in stress that result from the deep breathing that accompanies a practice.

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1. What is the meaning of **immutable** as it is used in paragraph 1?

a. eternal
b. variable
c. alive
d. unchangeable

2. Which word is closest in meaning to **precepts** as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. principles
b. meanings
c. ideals
d. thoughts

3. What does **austere** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. heartwarming
b. severe
c. provocative
d. repetitive

4. What does **redoubtable** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 3?

a. thoughtful
b. reliable
c. illustrious
d. unknowable

5. Which word means the opposite of **beneficent** in paragraph 3?

a. benevolent
b. harmful
c. tolerable
d. painful

II. Definitions *In each group, draw a line from each phrase to the* ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

Group A

6. immoderate, lacking in self-control	**inadvertent**
7. to talk a great deal in a foolish or aimless fashion	**intemperate**
8. to free from entanglements or difficulties; to remove with effort	**prate**
9. resulting from a lack of attention, unintentional, accidental	**extricate**

Group B

10. a gap, opening, break	**demagogue**
11. a leader who exploits popular prejudices in order to gain power	**aggrandize**
12. to increase in greatness, power, or wealth; to build up or intensify	**hiatus**
13. untidy, dirty, careless	**slovenly**

III. Synonyms *Circle the item that means the same as the* ***boldface*** *word.*

14. **stringent** admission requirements
a. rigorous **b.** ambiguous **c.** permissive **d.** outdated

15. the reporter's **scathing** exposé
a. amusing **b.** dramatic **c.** searing **d.** shocking

16. suspected of **peculating**
a. stealing **b.** losing **c.** spending **d.** wasting

17. words that **reverberate**
a. threaten **b.** re-echo **c.** inspire **d.** amuse

18. **nebulous** in form
a. vague **b.** novel **c.** detailed **d.** distinct

19. tried to avoid **dissension**
a. work **b.** defeat **c.** responsibility **d.** strife

20. simulated surprise

a. feared **b.** feigned **c.** hoped for **d.** caused

21. performed with impressive **sangfroid**

a. sensitivity **b.** skill **c.** courage **d.** self-assurance

22. once again rose to **inveigh against** the measure

a. propose **b.** protest **c.** support **d.** champion

23. your **prerogatives** as club members

a. votes **b.** responsibilities **c.** dues **d.** rights

24. the look of **consternation** on their faces

a. disgust **b.** boredom **c.** confusion **d.** amusement

IV. Antonyms *Circle the item that means the opposite of the* ***boldface*** *word.*

25. a person incapable of **perfidy**

a. cowardice **b.** humor **c.** faithfulness **d.** betrayal

26. a very **punctilious** bureaucrat

a. productive **b.** precise **c.** punctual **d.** careless

27. expedited the application process

a. destroyed **b.** lost **c.** obstructed **d.** sped up

28. jokes that resulted in **umbrage**

a. delight **b.** annoyance **c.** puzzlement **d.** fear

29. a very **astute** commentator

a. doltish **b.** famous **c.** shrewd **d.** biased

30. bombastic political oratory

a. persuasive **b.** plain **c.** partisan **d.** pompous

31. the **transient** beauty of autumn

a. vivid **b.** fleeting **c.** imperishable **d.** picturesque

32. cajoled them into cooperating

a. embarrassed **b.** bribed **c.** sweet-talked **d.** coerced

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V. Completing the Sentences

From the lists of words given below, choose the word that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word or the correct form of the word in the space given.

Group A

novice	**ignoble**	**approbation**
intrinsic	**ingratiate**	**concoct**

33. The most successful people usually achieve their goals by moral, rather than _____, means.

34. "Whatever possessed him to _____ that obviously false excuse for being late?" I asked in amazement.

35. Some of the events at the local horse show are designed for seasoned riders; others are for complete _____.

Group B

repudiate	**fetter**	**restitution**
salutary	**sinecure**	**unwieldy**

36. Since my grand piano was too _____ to move by myself, I hired a crew of professionals to do the job.

37. "I refuse to _____ my basic beliefs," the candidate said, "just because they have become somewhat unpopular of late."

38. The members of the chain gang were _____ together to prevent them from escaping.

VI. Framing Sentences *(Optional)*

On the lines provided, write an original sentence that illustrates the meaning and use of each of the following words. Do not merely reproduce one of the sentences given in the text.

39. blazon

40. adulation

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I. Vocabulary in Context

Some of the words you have studied in Unit 10 appear in ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

Mahalia's Music

Together, Mahalia Jackson and gospel music swept through the twentieth century like a force of nature. Mahalia and the songs she sang were formed in African American churches. They rocked to the rhythms of old slave work-songs and to the preacher's rhythmical call and the congregation's response.

Mahalia Jackson was born in New Orleans in 1911. Her father was a barber by trade, a longshoreman by necessity, and a preacher by vocation—he practiced all three with grace and **equanimity**. The first music Mahalia heard was the rich **bedlam** of the waterfront streets. She grew up to the sound of the blues and the songs of the dockworkers. Marching bands played dirges and rags to accompany the dead to their burial place, and jazz poured out of every place of entertainment.

The hymns and spirituals Mahalia sang at her Baptist church were a golden thread in the **motley** fabric of sound that she **accrued** and formed into a music that was her own. She took it with her when the family moved north to Chicago. Mahalia was 16 years old. It was while she was working odd jobs and singing in church that Mahalia's talent was recognized. Even as a teenager, she had that huge contralto voice that made her famous.

With that voice, Mahalia could have been a jazz singer, like Bessie Smith or Billie Holiday. She could have lent depth and beauty to the pop songs of the day. She turned down the opportunity to train as an opera singer. She was **imperious** in her determination to be true to the tradition she was born into. In her long and distinguished career, Mahalia Jackson traveled the world many times over, and wherever she went she sewed the golden thread of hope and joy.

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1. What is the meaning of **equanimity** as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. dignity
b. energy
c. calmness
d. resignation

2. What does **bedlam** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. overture
b. harmony
c. uproar
d. singing

3. Which word is closest in meaning to **motley** as it is used in paragraph 3?

a. rough
b. tweedy
c. flimsy
d. diverse

4. Which word means the same as **accrued** in paragraph 3?

a. collected
b. accompanied
c. repeated
d. avoided

5. What is the meaning of **imperious** as it is used in paragraph 4?

a. orderly
b. domineering
c. meaningful
d. intimidating

II. Definitions *Draw a line from each phrase to the* ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

6. hidden, disguised; a sheltered place, a hiding place — **recondite**
7. a critical or explanatory note or comment, especially for a literary work — **invective**
8. exceeding ordinary knowledge and understanding — **annotation**
9. a strong denunciation or condemnation — **covert**

III. Synonyms *Circle the item that means the same as the* ***boldface*** *word.*

10. **dunned** by lenders
    a. approached **b.** harassed **c.** surrounded **d.** praised
11. the **gist** of the problem
    a. essence **b.** nature **c.** cause **d.** solution
12. **provocative** glances
    a. puzzled **b.** distrustful **c.** disapproving **d.** alluring
13. **debonair** actors
    a. homely **b.** suave **c.** dedicated **d.** elderly
14. the **reprobate** prosecutor
    a. cautious **b.** novice **c.** corrupt **d.** hardened
15. left in a **sedentary** state
    a. stationary **b.** relaxed **c.** reclining **d.** unconscious
16. a tendency to **procrastinate**
    a. speed **b.** doze **c.** snack **d.** delay

IV. Antonyms *Circle the item that means the opposite of the* ***boldface*** *word.*

17. a **fortuitous** encounter
    a. humorous **b.** random **c.** planned **d.** strange
18. their **gratuitous** comments
    a. inopportune **b.** warranted **c.** ignorant **d.** trenchant
19. an **efficacious** medication
    a. proven **b.** original **c.** prescribed **d.** ineffective
20. a **munificent** donation
    a. unexpected **b.** annual **c.** in-kind **d.** miserly

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I. Vocabulary in Context

Some of the words you have studied in Unit 11 appear in ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

War at Home

World War II transformed American life on the Home Front. Ration books were **disseminated** among households all over the United States. Rationing of meat, sugar, coffee, butter, and canned goods forced households to be **abstemious** and to help the war effort by making the most of what they had. When imported foodstuffs like coffee and sugar were in short supply because of interference to shipping, the military's needs took precedence.

Food was not the only thing that was rationed. The cans it came in were rationed, too, because the metal was required for weapons. No new cars were manufactured and a **dowdy** old car was a proud symbol of patriotism. Shoes and other leather goods were rationed because leather was required for various kinds of military gear. Gasoline was rationed to everyone except farmers, the police, some politicians, and various civil servants. The amount available for domestic use was **contingent** on military needs and available supplies. Americans on the home front generally conserved fuel by using trains and buses whenever possible.

It is often said that the United States was the only great nation not to have enemy troops on its soil, or to be bombed during the Second World War. Nevertheless, it is a fact that in 1942 four Nazi agents were planted on Long Island, and four more on the Florida coast. They were intended to mingle with the local people while they prepared to perform their assigned task of blowing up factories. Nobody, however, was convinced by their ludicrously exaggerated politeness. These **gauche** saboteurs provided some light relief in the communities they tried to mingle with, but they were very soon exposed and arrested before they could do any harm.

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1. Which word means the same as **disseminated** in paragraph 1?

a. explained
b. distributed
c. sent
d. sold

2. What does **abstemious** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 1?

a. intemperate
b. efficient
c. obedient
d. sparing

3. Which word is closest in meaning to **dowdy** as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. classic
b. unreliable
c. shabby
d. beloved

4. What does **contingent** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. conditional
b. resident
c. despondent
d. independent

5. What is the meaning of **gauche** as it is used in paragraph 3?

a. foreign
b. unspeaking
c. amusing
d. awkward

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II. Definitions *Draw a line from each phrase to the* ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

6. prominent, standing out, conspicuous — **salient**

7. to make or become dry and withered; to char or scorch the surface of — **palpable**

8. highly colored, reddish — **sear**

9. capable of being felt; easily seen, heard, or recognized — **florid**

III. Synonyms *Circle the item that means the same as the* ***boldface*** *word.*

10. that **satiate** moment after a good meal
a. sleepy **b.** empty **c.** indescribable **d.** satisfying

11. a **pernicious** oversight
a. embarrassing **b.** significant **c.** harmful **d.** recurring

12. a **specious** argument
a. final **b.** deceptive **c.** cogent **d.** novel

13. **inculcate** the rules of grammar
a. instill **b.** ignore **c.** examine **d.** practice

14. delivered a **discursive** speech
a. lengthy **b.** impromptu **c.** rambling **d.** detailed

15. a **denizen** of the suburbs
a. tourist **b.** crusader **c.** social worker **d.** inhabitant

16. **foisted** the old coupons
a. redeemed **b.** passed off **c.** collected **d.** traded

IV. Antonyms *Circle the item that means the opposite of the* ***boldface*** *word.*

17. **corroborate** the testimony
a. believe **b.** refute **c.** record **d.** substantiate

18. **censurable** behavior
a. commendable **b.** obnoxious **c.** blameworthy **d.** outrageous

19. **heresy** in some people's eyes
a. contraband **b.** comedy **c.** propaganda **d.** orthodoxy

20. **perceptive** comments
a. disturbing **b.** dim-witted **c.** insightful **d.** humorless

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I. Vocabulary in Context

Some of the words you have studied in Unit 12 appear in ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

Truffles

The truffle is undoubtedly the **paragon** of edible fungi. It grows underground. It is traditionally hunted by pigs and eaten by royalty. If it is white, it looks like a battered golf ball; if it is black, it looks like a small piece of coal. The truffle has **enthralled** cooks and gourmets for at least 4000 years. Ancient Egyptians basted their truffles with goose fat and baked them. Ancient Greeks and Romans believed that they gave strength and vigor to the eater.

The truffle is not exactly **ostentatious** in its subterranean lifestyle. Because it reproduces by spores that are invisible to the naked eye, people once thought that truffles grew by a kind of magic, only in soil that had been struck by lightning. Now it is known that they rely on tree roots for sustenance. They prefer a chalky, or limestone, soil. White truffles are gathered in northern Italy, among oak, beech, and poplar trees. Black truffles grow in the Perigord region of the south of France. They favor oak and hazelnut trees.

Truffles have always been notoriously difficult to find. There is no evidence on the surface of the soil that a truffle is growing a few inches below. Only its scent gives the truffle away, and that scent is much too faint for a human to perceive. Traditionally, pigs have been used to sniff out the buried treasure. The only problem is that they find truffles as delicious as we do, and given half a chance, they'll eat what they find. These days, dogs are trained for the job.

Black truffles are incorporated into cream sauces, and raw white truffles are shaved on to a variety of dishes to **enhance** flavor. When asked how a diner prefers his or her truffles, the traditional and **incisive** reply is: "In great quantity."

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1. What is the meaning of **paragon** as it is used in paragraph 1?
   - **a.** essence
   - **b.** most nutritious example
   - **c.** great mystery
   - **d.** outstanding

2. What does **enthralled** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 1?
   - **a.** bewitched
   - **b.** defeated
   - **c.** preoccupied
   - **d.** exasperated

3. Which word is closest in meaning to **ostentatious** as it is used in paragraph 2?
   - **a.** busy
   - **b.** secret
   - **c.** flamboyant
   - **d.** inactive

4. Which word means the same as **enhance** as it is used in paragraph 4?
   - **a.** disguise
   - **b.** enrich
   - **c.** heighten
   - **d.** complete

5. What is the meaning of **incisive** as it is used in paragraph 4?
   - **a.** amusing
   - **b.** sharp
   - **c.** thoughtful
   - **d.** ironic

II. Definitions

Draw a line from each phrase to the ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

6. side by side; near; adjacent in time — **extenuate**

7. to lessen the seriousness of an offense by making partial excuses — **sanctimonious**

8. sparkling, twinkling, exceptionally brilliant — **scintillating**

9. making a show of virtue or righteousness — **contiguous**

III. Synonyms

Circle the item that means the same as the ***boldface*** *word.*

10. a persistent **clangor**
a. silence **b.** clapping **c.** din **d.** rumble

11. **redundant** systems
a. complicated **b.** antiquated **c.** excess **d.** pointless

12. shocked by their **cupidity**
a. laziness **b.** greed **c.** courage **d.** treachery

13. **implicit** acceptance
a. expected **b.** wholehearted **c.** guarded **d.** implied

14. a **winsome** character
a. charming **b.** lonely **c.** vain **d.** guarded

15. a pair of **inimical** pets
a. similar **b.** destructive **c.** anxious **d.** antagonistic

16. a **caricature** of a politician
a. policy **b.** description **c.** cartoon **d.** defense

IV. Antonyms

Circle the item that means the opposite of the ***boldface*** *word.*

17. a **prosaic** composition
a. new **b.** instrumental **c.** inspired **d.** trite

18. a most **politic** move
a. ingenious **b.** intricate **c.** imprudent **d.** haphazard

19. firmly convinced that history could **absolve** them
a. blame **b.** remember **c.** question **d.** vindicate

20. **deleterious** consequences
a. injurious **b.** unexpected **c.** predictable **d.** beneficial

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I. Vocabulary in Context

Some of the words you have studied in Units 1–12 appear in ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

Nuclear Scintigraphy: A Brilliant Diagnosis

Nuclear scintigraphy is an imaging technique that uses very small, tracer amounts of radioactive molecules (called tracers or isotopes) to diagnose diseases involving bone, soft tissues, and vessels. These molecules are attached ("tagged") to drugs and injected into the blood stream.

Specific drugs are employed for specific purposes. Some drugs travel to a particular organ—the brain, the kidneys, or the liver, for instance. Other drugs are designed to travel through the body in search of sites or systems where damage has occurred, owing to injury, disease, or infection—soft-tissue tumors, various cancers, bone lesions, thyroid disease, and so on.

The radiotracer gradually collects in the **salient** place or places where it gives off energy in the form of gamma rays. This energy is detected by a device called a gamma camera and converted into computer images. The radioactive material shows up as an **aura** of luminescence with varying degrees of intensity, which conveys detailed information on the nature and degree of the damage, if any.

Nuclear scintigraphy was originally used to identify cancer in humans, but it has come to play an increasingly important part in veterinary medicine—notably in the detection of subtle changes in musculoskeletal structures that radiography and ultrasound would miss. It is particularly **efficacious** as a diagnostic aid to the health of thoroughbred and other **vulnerable** competition horses. Before nuclear scintigraphy, undetectable but **pernicious** microscopic stress fractures could lead to catastrophic bone failure. With early diagnosis, the horse may now be removed from training and competition before any damage is done, and the bone restored to full strength with a little rest and unforced exercise.

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1. Which word is closest in meaning to **salient** as it is used in paragraph 3?

a. inflamed
b. damaged
c. notable
d. healthy

2. What is the meaning of **aura** as it is used in paragraph 3?

a. radiation
b. atmosphere
c. electricity
d. color

3. Which word means the same as **efficacious** in paragraph 4?

a. curative
b. healthy
c. useful
d. ineffective

4. What does **vulnerable** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 4?

a. unhealthy
b. powerful
c. at risk
d. wounded

5. What does **pernicious** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 4?

a. harmless
b. significant
c. painful
d. dangerous

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II. Definitions *In each group, draw a line from each phrase to the* ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

Group A

6. to captivate, charm, hold spellbound — **motley**

7. courteous and pleasant, sociable, easy to speak to — **enthrall**

8. not easily carried or managed because of size or complexity — **affable**

9. showing great variety; composed of different elements; a jester's costume — **unwieldy**

Group B

10. apparently good but lacking real merit — **annotation**

11. a critical or explanatory note or comment, especially for a literary work — **specious**

12. to find fault with, scold, rebuke — **infraction**

13. a breaking of a law or obligation — **reprove**

Group C

14. tending to be troublesome; contrary — **pillage**

15. charming, attractive, pleasing — **winsome**

16. to rob of goods by open force, plunder; the act of looting — **penury**

17. extreme poverty; barrenness, insufficiency — **fractious**

III. Synonyms *Circle the item that means the same as the* ***boldface*** *word.*

18. books on the **occult**

a. supernatural **b.** miraculous **c.** famous **d.** offbeat

19. disavowed any connection with the group

a. severed **b.** investigated **c.** denied **d.** disapproved

20. such **torpid** imaginations

a. bizarre **b.** enviable **c.** lively **d.** dull

21. absolved those accused

a. punished **b.** acquitted **c.** fined **d.** convicted

22. the forces of the **coalition**

a. invader **b.** alliance **c.** enemy **d.** universe

23. extenuating circumstances

a. damaging **b.** irrelevant **c.** recent **d.** mitigating

24. the **denizens** of the local watering holes

a. inhabitants **b.** owners **c.** suppliers **d.** critics

25. an **incisive** analysis

a. rambling **b.** ridiculous **c.** keen **d.** caustic

26. perceptive suggestions

a. insightful **b.** dangerous **c.** lengthy **d.** impractical

27. a **stalwart** partner

a. disloyal **b.** resolute **c.** formidable **d.** weak

28. a case based on **supposition**

a. fact **b.** hearsay **c.** presumption **d.** rumor

29. sepulchral voices

a. gloomy **b.** angry **c.** creamy **d.** grating

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IV. Antonyms

Circle the item that means the opposite of the ***boldface*** *word.*

30. redoubtable tasks
a. awesome **b.** boring **c.** easy **d.** complicated

31. equitable solutions
a. unfair **b.** profitable **c.** impractical **d.** reasonable

32. inculcate such attitudes
a. investigate **b.** tolerate **c.** instill **d.** root out

33. such **florid** complexions
a. flushed **b.** fair **c.** clear **d.** pallid

34. had no **deleterious** effects
a. unanticipated **b.** beneficial **c.** expensive **d.** long-term

35. dissipate one's inheritance
a. reveal **b.** waste **c.** conserve **d.** ignore

36. evanescent forms of regulation
a. poisonous **b.** nondescript **c.** edible **d.** durable

37. abstemious habits
a. offensive **b.** elegant **c.** indulgent **d.** jejune

38. munificent bequests
a. stingy **b.** unusual **c.** generous **d.** unexpected

39. a **gauche** speech
a. self-centered **b.** diplomatic **c.** tactless **d.** long-winded

40. inconsequential objections
a. unexpected **b.** important **c.** predictable **d.** trivial

41. sanctimonious sentiments
a. dangerous **b.** strange **c.** sincere **d.** childish

V. Completing the Sentences *From the lists of words given below, choose the word that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word or the correct form of the word in the space given.*

Group A

bedlam	**dilatory**	**dun**
satiate	**heresy**	**politic**

42. "Never forget," the old politician replied, leaning back in his overstuffed easy chair, "that yesterday's political _____ is today's orthodoxy."

43. Raymond Walters once so rightly observed that a book reviewer should strive to stimulate, not _____, the reader's appetite for the work being considered.

44. The old adage that "the early bird gets the worm" warns us against becoming overly _____, especially in our daily habits.

Group B

cajole	**provocative**	**corroborate**
tenuous	**equanimity**	**adulation**

45. "When I saw that threats would have no effect," she replied, "I realized that a little flattery might well _____ him into doing what I wished."

46. Our cozy little fireside chat turned into a verbal donnybrook when their comments on life and politics in these United States proved too _____ to be tolerated or ignored.

47. Despite the continuing _____ of fans all over the world, the great singer remained what she had been before she became a star—a humble, unpretentious, and thoroughly dedicated servant of art.

Group C

censurable	**impugn**	**transmute**
redundant	**ostentatious**	**reprobate**

48. In the old days, cavaliers would have frequent recourse to the dueling field when they felt their honor had been _____.

49. His actions could not be declared _____ until two-thirds of the Congress voted in favor of the measure.

50. "I just felt the style of decoration was far too _____," she replied, "for someone of such simple tastes and modest habits."

Name _____

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I. Vocabulary in Context

Some of the words you have studied in Unit 13 appear in ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

Risky Business

Even in a democratic society, where it is a **buttress** to civil liberty, a free press requires courage and hard work. In colonial America, ensuring freedom of the press was a **herculean** task. One of the men who made it possible was a German American printer named John Peter Zenger (1697–1746).

Zenger's early career was **inauspicious**. He arrived in New York City in 1710 and began an eight-year apprenticeship with William Bradford. Bradford was the first printer in New York City, and he was publisher of the *New-York Gazette*. When Zenger finished his apprenticeship, he soon set up his own shop. Business was slow at first. He tried publishing Dutch school books, but sales were not **prolific**.

Business improved, however, when in 1733 he established a newspaper of his own—the *New York Weekly Journal*—and began to publish anonymous articles critical of the colonial governor, William Cosby. They accused Cosby of corrupt practices. Zenger was arrested and charged with libel. His first trial was abandoned because Cosby had **blatantly** packed the jury with his supporters.

In the retrial, Zenger was represented by Andrew Hamilton. In a bold move, Hamilton admitted that Zenger had published the charges and challenged the prosecution to prove them false—which they failed to do. Hamilton pleaded with the jury to let Zenger go free. According to current law, however, it was libel to publish anything that opposed government policy, and the judge ordered the jury to convict Zenger if they believed he printed the articles. After ten minutes, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

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1. Which word is closest in meaning to **buttress** as it is used in paragraph 1?

a. explanation **c.** support
b. alignment **d.** opposition

2. What does **herculean** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 1?

a. truly memorable **c.** ennobling
b. virtually impossible **d.** immensely challenging

3. Which word is closest in meaning to **inauspicious** as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. impressive **c.** negligible
b. unpromising **d.** suspicious

4. Which word means the same as **prolific** in paragraph 2?

a. popular **c.** limited
b. lucrative **d.** abundant

5. What is the meaning of **blatantly** as it is used in paragraph 3?

a. flagrantly **c.** earnestly
b. dishonestly **d.** secretly

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II. Definitions *Draw a line from each phrase to the* ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

6. showing no feeling or emotion — **incontrovertible**

7. puzzled, at a loss — **encumber**

8. beyond dispute, unquestionable — **nonplussed**

9. to weigh down or burden; to fill up, block, hinder — **impassive**

III. Synonyms *Circle the item that means the same as the* ***boldface*** *word.*

10. disconsolate after hearing the news
a. optimistic **b.** dejected **c.** confused **d.** contemplative

11. abetted the escape
a. planned **b.** foiled **c.** aided **d.** discovered

12. issued a **rejoinder**
a. uniform **b.** request **c.** order **d.** reply

13. an **opportune** moment
a. suitable **b.** inappropriate **c.** premature **d.** critical

14. collate the tissue samples
a. prepare **b.** examine **c.** sort out **d.** take stock of

15. a **connoisseur** of early photography
a. technique **b.** collector **c.** admirer **d.** expert

16. the effects of a **carousal**
a. jamboree **b.** ailment **c.** curfew **d.** holiday

IV. Antonyms *Circle the item that means the opposite of the* ***boldface*** *word.*

17. broach the matter
a. avoid **b.** bring up **c.** negotiate **d.** discuss

18. grisly details
a. humorous **b.** pleasant **c.** specific **d.** reassuring

19. averred that they need help
a. repeated **b.** denied **c.** shouted **d.** affirmed

20. foment rebellion
a. incite **b.** finance **c.** suppress **d.** discuss

Name _____

Class _____ Date _____ Score _____

I. Vocabulary in Context

Some of the words you have studied in Unit 14 appear in ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

Marking Time

The First Transcontinental Railroad was completed in 1869. Its 1912 miles of connecting track represented the high point of the American Industrial Revolution to date, and a triumph of human aspiration and ingenuity.

Whether they go by road, rail, or air, travelers nowadays accept that they will pass through four time zones: Pacific Standard Time, Mountain Standard Time, Central Standard Time, and Eastern Standard Time. They accept that if it is noon in Los Angeles, it will be 1:00 pm in Denver, 2:00 pm in Chicago, and 3:00 pm in Boston and find nothing **tortuous** about reading schedules that refer to local times at departure and arrival.

At the **inception** of the First Transcontinental Railroad, trying to make sense of travel times was a task that seemed to have been set by a **sadistic** scheduler. The continental United States was a **potpourri** of different times. In every location, it was midday when the sun was directly overhead. That was how people set their clocks.

Some railroad operators tried to schedule their services by local times. They came up with 300 time zones. Others organized their schedules according to the time at their administrative headquarters. Since a long journey often involved a significant number of different railroad companies, planning could be a nightmare.

It was a different nightmare when time zones were introduced in 1883. **Obdurate** citizens viewed their local time with strong civic pride. Others believed that they would put the sun, moon and stars out of alignment. Everyone got used to it in time.

---

1. Which word means the opposite of **tortuous** in paragraph 2?
   - **a.** circuitous
   - **b.** painless
   - **c.** straightforward
   - **d.** hopeful

2. What does **inception** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 3?
   - **a.** commencement
   - **b.** completion
   - **c.** ceremony
   - **d.** closure

3. Which word is closest in meaning to **sadistic** as it is used in paragraph 3?
   - **a.** disciplined
   - **b.** competent
   - **c.** incompetent
   - **d.** brutal

4. What does **potpourri** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 3?
   - **a.** assortment
   - **b.** mess
   - **c.** organization
   - **d.** system

5. What is the meaning of **obdurate** as it is used in paragraph 5?
   - **a.** harsh
   - **b.** disorderly
   - **c.** stubborn
   - **d.** inordinate

II. Definitions *Draw a line from each phrase to the* ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

6. showing unusually early development — **criterion**

7. large-scale slaughter or loss of life — **precocious**

8. swollen, bloated, filled to excess — **turgid**

9. a standard for judgment or evaluation — **carnage**

III. Synonyms *Circle the item that means the same as the* ***boldface*** *word.*

10. excised all **extraneous** matter
a. illegible **b.** irrelevant **c.** immodest **d.** innocuous

11. **supplicate** the gods
a. invoke **b.** praise **c.** curse **d.** entreat

12. **expatiate** on the plan
a. elaborate **b.** execute **c.** vote **d.** propose

13. bear with a friend's **infirmity**
a. injury **b.** accident **c.** malady **d.** problem

14. a **surfeit** of advice
a. offer **b.** source **c.** dearth **d.** abundance

15. a **sententious** young woman
a. witty **b.** thoughtful **c.** moralistic **d.** educated

16. **amenable** to the proposal
a. suspicious **b.** responsive **c.** related **d.** hostile

---

IV. Antonyms *Circle the item that means the opposite of the* ***boldface*** *word.*

17. **berated** me
a. scolded **b.** despised **c.** reminded **d.** complimented

18. far too **credulous** for their own good
a. cute **b.** sassy **c.** gullible **d.** skeptical

19. **depleted** our supply
a. replenished **b.** admired **c.** sapped **d.** matched

20. **jejune** tastes
a. predictable **b.** laughable **c.** mature **d.** bizarre

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Name _____

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I. Vocabulary in Context

Some of the words you have studied in Unit 15 appear in ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

Looking at Laughter

Laughter is a funny thing, when you take the trouble to stop and think about it. On the face of it, it appears to be a simple reflex action. Do we laugh as an automatic, involuntary response to the **requisite** stimulus? If so, what is the requisite stimulus? Is there a stimulus that works equally well on everyone? Comedians, writers, market researchers, animal behaviorists, and psychologists have devoted whole careers to answering that question, and the subject remains utterly **enigmatic**.

What does laughter mean? On the face of it, it is quite literally meaningless. Laughter is an inarticulate and **impromptu** response to a stimulus too complex to analyze—most scientists call this stimulus "something funny." The stimulus works in different ways on different people, and "something funny" means different things to different people. In every case, however, it brings about a radical change in the **demeanor** of the subject. The eyes lose focus, the stomach muscles relax, and the subject takes a quick, but very deep intake of breath. Then, without showing any **deference** to the people in his or her immediate vicinity, the subject starts to make the sound that we generally associate with amusement.

Is it significant that the sound of laughter is represented in different ways in different languages? Writers of English tend to stick to *ha ha*. What national characteristics might we discern if we encountered, say, *ku-ku-ku-ku-ku* as a representation of laughter? The question is hypothetical, since no country actually represents laughter in this way.

---

1. What is the meaning of **requisite** as it is used in paragraph 1?

a. unnecessary
b. required
c. medical
d. cosmetic

2. Which word means the same as **enigmatic** in paragraph 1?

a. distracting
b. ridiculous
c. mystifying
d. obvious

3. Which word is closest in meaning to **impromptu** as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. extreme
b. spontaneous
c. prepared
d. inappropriate

4. What does **demeanor** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. complexion
b. belief
c. embarrassment
d. attitude

5. What is the meaning of **deference** as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. fear
b. evidence
c. high spirits
d. consideration

II. Definitions *Draw a line from each phrase to the* ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

6. easily made angry, bad-tempered	**sartorial**
7. to spoil an appetite by too much indulgence, especially of sweets	**choleric**
8. having to do with clothes or dress, especially men's	**cloy**
9. conclusive, final, the limit of what can be done	**definitive**

III. Synonyms *Circle the item that means the same as the* ***boldface*** *word.*

10. remain **adamant**
a. unyielding **b.** profitable **c.** prepared **d.** suspicious

11. remit the monthly installment
a. raise **b.** levy **c.** collect **d.** send in

12. a **mawkish** poem in the greeting card
a. maudlin **b.** anxious **c.** foolish **d.** confusing

13. thwarted the assassination attempt
a. encouraged **b.** plotted **c.** foiled **d.** reported

14. the **onus** for leading the project
a. argument **b.** reason **c.** punishment **d.** responsibility

15. a sure **presentiment** of disaster
a. evidence **b.** premonition **c.** result **d.** cause

16. a **bulwark** of abandoned tires
a. bonfire **b.** dump **c.** bastion **d.** collection

IV. Antonyms *Circle the item that means the opposite of the* ***boldface*** *word.*

17. mollified his opponents
a. soothed **b.** debated **c.** enraged **d.** outwitted

18. the direct result of the **brouhaha**
a. calm **b.** catastrophe **c.** victory **d.** hubbub

19. their **profligate** ways
a. extravagant **b.** frugal **c.** amusing **d.** strange

20. curtailed the game
a. forfeited **b.** announced **c.** continued **d.** delayed

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Name _____

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I. Vocabulary in Context *Some of the words you have studied in Units 1–15 appear in* ***boldface****. Read the passage below. Then circle the letter of the correct answer for each word as it is used in context.*

The Great Trunk Road

Look! Brahmins and chumars, bankers and tinkers, barbers and bunnias, pilgrims—and potters—all the world going and coming. It is to me as a river from which I am withdrawn like a log after a flood. And truly the Grand Trunk Road is the ***paragon*** *of highways. It runs straight, bearing without crowding India's traffic for fifteen hundred miles—such a river of life as nowhere else exists in the world.*

Kim (1901), by the **prolific** Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936), is the **definitive** portrait of colonial India. It is a great road novel—and the road it travels is the highway across northern India, known to British colonists as "The Great Trunk Road."

Previously, the road had been known as the *Shah Rah-e-Azam*—"The Great Highway"—since the **imperious** Sher Shah Suri (1486–1545), the "Lion King" and founder of the northern Indian Sur empire, paved it to link the provinces of his dominion.

Two thousand years before Sher Shah, when King Ashoka built sacred pillars along its way as Buddhist atonement for the suffering he had inflicted on his enemies, it was the *Uttarpatha*, or "northern road." To later pilgrims, visiting the many sacred sites along its way, from the Golden Temple of Amritsar to the holy city of Varanasi, the road was "The Long Walk."

Three **millennia** before Ashoka, the same road led traders from the cities of the Indus Valley through the Khyber Pass, to the Silk Road and into the world beyond. The name by which they knew it, however, is lost.

---

1. Which word is closest in meaning to **paragon** as it is used in paragraph 1?

a. busiest **c.** model
b. greatest **d.** first

2. What is the meaning of **prolific** as it is used in paragraph 2?

a. productive **c.** brilliant
b. secretive **d.** reclusive

3. Which word means the same as **definitive** in paragraph 2?

a. last **c.** ultimate
b. best **d.** accurate

4. Which word means the same as **imperious** in paragraph 3?

a. regal **c.** unelected
b. modest **d.** magisterial

5. What does **millennia** most likely mean as it is used in paragraph 5?

a. millions of years **c.** ages
b. one thousand years **d.** thousands of years

II. Definitions *In each group, draw a line from each phrase to the* ***boldface*** *word it defines.*

Group A

6. to reject; to deny the validity of — **repudiate**

7. an expert; one who is well qualified to pass critical judgments — **profligate**

8. given over to dissipation; a person given to wild spending — **ingratiate**

9. to make oneself agreeable and thus gain acceptance — **connoisseur**

Group B

10. to accumulate over time; to happen as a natural result — **insurgent**

11. peevish, complaining, fretful — **accrue**

12. offense, resentment — **querulous**

13. one who rebels or rises against authority; rising in revolt — **umbrage**

Group C

14. not prompt; intended to delay — **amenable**

15. willing to follow advice; responsive — **inculcate**

16. to impress on the mind by repetition, teach persistently and earnestly — **proclivity**

17. a natural inclination, especially of human character or behavior — **dilatory**

Group D

18. prudent, shrewdly conceived — **odium**

19. contempt; disgrace or infamy resulting from hateful conduct — **politic**

20. dull, uninteresting, tiresome; lacking in sharpness and flavor — **procrastinate**

21. to delay, put off until later — **vapid**

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III. Synonyms *Circle the item that means the same as the* ***boldface*** *word.*

22. curtailed our privileges
a. envied **b.** relished **c.** reduced **d.** extended

23. assuaged the child's fears
a. relieved **b.** aggravated **c.** sensed **d.** ignored

24. inadvertent rudeness
a. habitual **b.** deliberate **c.** shocking **d.** unintentional

25. concoct an alibi
a. question **b.** corroborate **c.** verify **d.** fabricate

26. deference for the elderly
a. respect **b.** alms **c.** assistance **d.** sympathy

27. the neighborhood's **denizens**
a. cultures **b.** residents **c.** traditions **d.** sights

28. covert activities
a. meaningless **b.** well-planned **c.** undercover **d.** enjoyable

29. the **fetters** of society
a. constraints **b.** rules **c.** beliefs **d.** practices

30. averred their loyalty
a. withdrew **b.** disavowed **c.** questioned **d.** affirmed

31. fashionable clothing for **corpulent** clients
a. apprentice **b.** overweight **c.** retired **d.** strong

32. a scene of **carnage**
a. revelry **b.** confusion **c.** hilarity **d.** butchery

33. worried by her **lassitude**
a. sorrow **b.** fatigue **c.** depression **d.** anger

34. gossamer curtains
a. filmy **b.** antique **c.** opaque **d.** lace

35. short-lived **adulation**
a. enthusiasm **b.** success **c.** idolization **d.** suffering

36. satiated my curiosity
a. whetted **b.** intensified **c.** satisfied **d.** excited

37. filched pencils
a. sharpened **b.** borrowed **c.** distributed **d.** pilfered

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38. **precocious** youngsters
    a. noisy **b.** immature **c.** gifted **d.** exasperating

39. an **obdurate** colt
    a. awkward **b.** stubborn **c.** precocious **d.** well-bred

40. no necessity to affect so **sententious** a style
    a. pompous **b.** puzzling **c.** pedestrian **d.** pretentious

41. **foment** discontent
    a. report **b.** instigate **c.** quash **d.** avoid

42. an **infirmity** of aging
    a. flicker **b.** goal **c.** struggle **d.** affliction

43. **ignoble** deeds
    a. indecorous **b.** unworthy **c.** inexplicable **d.** unfathomable

44. **prosaic** ideas
    a. dangerous **b.** exciting **c.** commonplace **d.** recent

45. a **potpourri** of sketches, songs, and skits
    a. writer **b.** book **c.** performance **d.** medley

46. roused by a **clangor**
    a. din **b.** shout **c.** dream **d.** premonition

47. waylaid by a **reprobate**
    a. acquaintance **b.** thief **c.** court clerk **d.** scoundrel

48. a horrendous **brouhaha**
    a. mistake **b.** catastrophe **c.** uproar **d.** crime

49. an extremely **opportune** occurrence
    a. shocking **b.** timely **c.** important **d.** unexpected

50. **debase** the message in the speech
    a. demean **b.** change **c.** improve **d.** produce

51. of a naturally **bovine** disposition
    a. affable **b.** self-centered **c.** vivacious **d.** unresponsive

52. **gratuitous** advice
    a. insightful **b.** expert **c.** silly **d.** unwanted

53. **mollified** our anxieties
    a. allayed **b.** heightened **c.** explained **d.** ignored

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IV. Antonyms *Circle the item that means the opposite of the* ***boldface*** *word.*

54. a **choleric** temperament

a. aggressive **b.** irascible **c.** genial **d.** sluggish

55. a feeling of **ennui**

a. sorrow **b.** weariness **c.** annoyance **d.** excitement

56. buttressed the seawall

a. shored up **b.** designed **c.** weakened **d.** rebuilt

57. enigmatic behavior

a. courteous **b.** understandable **c.** mystifying **d.** irrational

58. nominal fees

a. variable **b.** exorbitant **c.** reasonable **d.** trifling

59. an **inimical** solution

a. harmful **b.** clever **c.** complicated **d.** amenable

60. a very **insular** outlook

a. liberal **b.** narrow **c.** old-fashioned **d.** gloomy

61. an **efficacious** course of treatment

a. potent **b.** useless **c.** experimental **d.** costly

62. a **precipitate** decision

a. popular **b.** courageous **c.** logical **d.** circumspect

63. scathing criticism

a. mild **b.** personal **c.** petty **d.** savage

64. a **fortuitous** meeting

a. dangerous **b.** accidental **c.** premeditated **d.** beneficial

65. a **hypothetical** example

a. real **b.** famous **c.** conjectural **d.** instructive

66. specious arguments

a. adroit **b.** complex **c.** sound **d.** biased

67. a very **unctuous** spokesman

a. convincing **b.** intriguing **c.** fawning **d.** blunt

68. disconcerted by the change in plans

a. disappointed **b.** excited **c.** calmed **d.** angered

69. depleted our resources

a. wasted **b.** replenished **c.** managed **d.** evaluated

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V. Completing the Sentences *From the lists of words given below, choose the word that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word or the correct form of the word in the space given.*

Group A

fractious	**mitigate**	**gauntlet**
sedentary	**remonstrate**	**megalomania**

70. Don't you think it's a little pointless to _____ with the umpire when you know he's not going to change his call?

71. The doctors reported that the patient was suffering from delusions of grandeur and other unmistakable signs of _____.

72. That horse is so _____ that even expert riders cannot control him, and so he was retired to pasture.

Group B

equanimity	**thwart**	**disconsolate**
transgress	**contiguous**	**implicit**

73. Our opponent's alert defense _____ our efforts to score on a surprise end sweep.

74. My neighbor was _____ when his dog disappeared, and he asked everyone to join in the search.

75. The ancient Stoic philosophers believed that people should bear both triumph and tragedy with _____.

Group C

contingent	**rejoinder**	**dowdy**
broach	**tortuous**	**expostulate**

76. The general rushed _____ of fresh troops into the fray as soon as they arrived at the battleground.

77. I could see from the grim look on my boss's face that "never" would undoubtedly be the most opportune time to _____ the ticklish subject of a raise.

78. Though the solution seemed simple, it had been arrived at through a(n) _____ process of trial and error.

Group D

disseminate	**squeamish**	**reprove**
inauspicious	**avarice**	**demeanor**

79. One reason for the continuing popularity of TV game shows is that they pander to the sense of _____ in many of us.

80. Even though I love to go fishing, I'm much too _____ to put the worm on the hook myself.

81. When our little practical joke backfired in our faces, the principal called us into his office and _____ us severely for our thoughtless behavior.

Group E

presentiment	**collate**	**vitriolic**
remit	**invective**	**sartorial**

82. "Someone who feels that strongly and passionately about the issue is going to have difficulty preventing just criticism of the opposition from becoming mere _____ or character assassination," she reminded me pointedly.

83. The invoice requested me to _____ full payment of the debt within fourteen days of the date on the notice.

84. "I'd hardly call them paragons of _____ splendor," I replied quickly, "but they certainly did look presentable enough when they finally turned up at the dance last night."

Group F

relegate	**recapitulate**	**cadaverous**
supplicate	**egregious**	**astute**

85. "Before we proceed with today's lecture," the professor said, "let me take a few moments to _____ what we have already covered on this subject."

86. His long ordeal hiding out from enemy troops in the dense jungle had transformed the once chubby and jovial young lieutenant into a gaunt and _____ shadow of his former self.

87. "If you look at his track record carefully," the senator observed, "I think you'll find that his financial dealings have hardly been as _____ as he claims."

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Unit 10 (pages 37–38)

1. c
2. c
3. d
4. a
5. b
6. covert
7. annotation
8. recondite
9. invective
10. b
11. a
12. d
13. b
14. c
15. a
16. d
17. c
18. b
19. d
20. d

Unit 11 (pages 39–40)

1. b
2. d
3. c
4. a
5. d
6. salient
7. sear
8. florid
9. palpable
10. d
11. c
12. b
13. a
14. c
15. d
16. b
17. b
18. a
19. d
20. b

Unit 12 (pages 41–42)

1. d
2. a
3. c
4. c
5. b
6. contiguous
7. extenuate
8. scintillating
9. sanctimonious
10. c
11. c
12. b
13. d
14. a
15. d
16. c
17. c
18. c
19. a
20. d

Cumulative Test 4 (pages 43–48)

1. c
2. b
3. c
4. c
5. d
6. enthrall
7. affable
8. unwieldy
9. motley
10. specious
11. annotation
12. reprove
13. infraction
14. fractious
15. winsome
16. pillage
17. penury
18. a
19. c
20. d
21. b
22. b
23. d
24. a
25. c
26. a
27. b
28. c
29. a
30. c
31. a
32. d
33. d
34. b
35. c
36. d
37. c
38. a
39. b
40. b
41. c
42. heresy
43. satiate
44. dilatory
45. cajole
46. provocative
47. adulation
48. impugned
49. censurable
50. ostentatious
51.–60. Answers will vary.

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Unit 13 (pages 49–50)

1. c
2. d
3. b
4. d
5. a
6. impassive
7. nonplussed
8. incontrovertible
9. encumber
10. b
11. c
12. d
13. a
14. c
15. d
16. a
17. a
18. b
19. b
20. c

Unit 14 (pages 51–52)

1. c
2. a
3. d
4. a
5. c
6. precocious
7. carnage
8. turgid
9. criterion
10. b
11. d
12. a
13. c
14. d
15. c
16. b
17. d
18. d
19. a
20. c

Unit 15 (pages 53–54)

1. b
2. c
3. b
4. d
5. d
6. choleric
7. cloy
8. sartorial
9. definitive
10. a
11. d
12. a
13. c
14. d
15. b
16. c
17. c
18. a
19. b
20. c

Cumulative Test 5 (pages 55–63)

1. c
2. a
3. c
4. d
5. b
6. repudiate
7. connoisseur
8. profligate
9. ingratiate
10. accrue
11. querulous
12. umbrage
13. insurgent
14. dilatory
15. amenable
16. inculcate
17. proclivity
18. politic
19. odium
20. vapid
21. procrastinate
22. c
23. a
24. d
25. d
26. a
27. b
28. c
29. a
30. d
31. b
32. d
33. b
34. a
35. c
36. c
37. d
38. c
39. b
40. a
41. b
42. d
43. b
44. c
45. d
46. a
47. d
48. c
49. b
50. a
51. d
52. d
53. a
54. c
55. d
56. c
57. b
58. b
59. d
60. a
61. b
62. d
63. a
64. c
65. a
66. c
67. d
68. c
69. b
70. remonstrate
71. megalomania
72. fractious
73. thwarted
74. disconsolate
75. equanimity
76. contingents
77. broach
78. tortuous
79. avarice
80. squeamish
81. reproved
82. invective
83. remit
84. sartorial
85. recapitulate
86. cadaverous
87. astute
88.–100. Answers will vary.